

REMARKS

The above-identified application is United States application serial number 10/697,821 filed on October 29, 2003. Claims 1-25 are pending in the application. Claims 1-25 are rejected.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-4 and 10-13, 18-22 and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Belsan et al. (US Patent No. 5,403,639). Applicants have amended the claims which distinguish over Belsan which does not disclose “a storage array comprising a cabinet [and] . . . storage devices contained within the cabinet of at least three different and distinct controller-to-storage device bus interface technology types.” In contrast, Belsan discloses, as shown in Figures 1 and 2, storage array units that individually contain only a single controller-to-storage device bus interface technology type in addition to a cache type. Column 3, lines 30-35, of Belsan describes “media used to store the data can be a disk array or any other media or combination of media such as a disk array in combination with a backend automated magnetic tape cartridge library system including a plurality of tape drives such that the file server system comprises a hierarchical data storage system containing multiple types of media” which relates to combinations of media of different types in distinct arrays and devices, but does not describe a single, contained disk array that includes multiple bus interface technology types. Belsan column 4, for example at lines 34-38 and 60-64 similar describe combinations of media of different types in distinct arrays and devices, but not a single, contained disk array that includes multiple bus interface technology types. Belsan Figure 2 described in column 8, lines 15-20, clearly show that the magnetic tape cartridges 10a and 10b are outside and separate from the data storage subsystem 100 and individual disk arrays 103-1. The Belsan description of Figure 2 in column 8, lines 29-48, teaches disk drives 122-1 to 125-r as significantly less expensive than typical form factor disk drives. However, the “less expensive” drives 122-1 to 125-r are the only drives in the array 100 so that Belsan does not describe a single, contained disk array that includes multiple bus interface technology types.

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The claimed combination of an hierarchy of storage types within an individual array enables allocation of storage for different purposes without the overhead of network communication in systems such as that shown in Belsan in which the different storage technologies are in separate arrays.

Rejection of Claims under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 5-9, 14-17 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 (a) as being unpatentable over Belsan et al. (U.S. patent No. 5,403,639) in view of Lee et al. (US Patent No. 7,047,358). Applicants have amended the claims which distinguish over Belsan in view of Lee which do not disclose "a storage array comprising a cabinet [and] . . . storage devices contained within the cabinet of at least three different and distinct controller-to-storage device bus interface technology types."

CONCLUSION

The application, including all remaining Claims 1-25, is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at (949) 251-0250.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to the USPTO on the date shown below:

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Respectfully submitted,

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